

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of Southern California Gas Company (U 904 G) for Approval of Program Year 2003 Low-Income Assistance Programs and Funding	Application 02-07-001 (Filed July 1, 2002)
Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 E) for Approval of Program Year 2003 Low-Income Assistance Programs and Funding.	Application 02-07-002 (Filed July 1, 2002)
Application Of Pacific Gas And Electric Company (U 39 M) For Approval Of The 2003 California Alternate Rates For Energy and Low-Income Energy Efficiency Programs and Budget.	Application 02-07-003 (Filed July 1, 2002)
Southern California Edison Company's (U 338-E) Application Regarding Low-Income Assistance Programs for Program Year 2003.	Application 02-07-004 (Filed July 1, 2002)
Order Instituting Rulemaking on the Commission's Proposed Policies and Programs Governing Low-Income Assistance Programs.	Rulemaking 01-08-027 (Filed August 23, 2001)

ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S RULING REVISING THE DUE DATES FOR THE FINAL REPORTS ON LIEE MEASURE ASSESSMENT AND ENERGY DIVISION'S AUDIT OF THE CALIFORNIA ALTERNATE RATE FOR ENERGY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

This ruling revises the due dates for the final reports on two major projects addressing the low-income programs of the four large energy utilities (referred to as the joint utilities). The joint utilities are: Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, Southern California Gas Company and San Diego Gas & Electric Company.

The first of these due dates is for the LIEE Measure Assessment Report to be submitted as part of Phase 4 of the Low-Income Energy Efficiency standardization project. The due date for this report is now June 2, 2003.¹ The

¹ Phase 4 is being conducted by the Standardization Project Team, which consists of the four utilities and their technical consultants. Energy Division assists in coordinating the

second is for Energy Division's report on its audit of the California Alternate Rate for Energy Program (CARE) administrative expenses. That report is now due on March 29, 2003.²

Pursuant to Decision (D.) 01-03-028 and D.01-05-033, the Phase 4 workplan has been developed under my direction in consultation with Energy Division. By ruling dated February 24, 2003, I approved the current version of the Phase 4 workplan, including a schedule for Task 10 milestones. Task 10 requires the Standardization Team to assess current LIEE program measures.

On March 21, 2003, Sempra, on behalf of the joint utilities, submitted a request for a two-month extension in filing the LIEE Measure Assessment Report. The joint utilities indicated that the Standardization Team has been focusing on the extensive issues still to be resolved with the Phase 4 Natural Gas Appliance Testing (NGAT) study and has not had an opportunity to fully consider and respond to comments received after the measure assessment public input workshops.

I have reviewed the joint utilities' request, in consultation with Energy Division, and find it to be reasonable.³ The joint utilities indicated that they underestimated the extensive issues still to be resolved with the NGAT study when it submitted its recent extension request approved on February 24, 2003. Ensuring that the Standardization Team has enough time to conduct final

effort. Per Commission direction, the project team obtains input from the public before submitting final recommendations from the public.

² In Decision 02-09-021, the Commission authorized Energy Division to hire independent contractors to conduct the audit and develop recommendations.

³ "The Assigned Commissioner shall direct the project with respect to the scope of work, budget and schedule." See D.01-03-028, Ordering Paragraph 8. See also D.01-05-033, Ordering Paragraph 18, which states: "The assigned Commissioner is authorized to establish the scope, schedule and budget for this evaluation process, in consultation with the Energy Division."

computer model runs on the measure savings and respond to parties' comments before they submit their final report is in the public interest.

On January 28, 2003, Energy Division released its request for proposals (RFP) on "A Program Financial and Managerial Audit of the Administrative Expenses of the CARE Program" to hire independent contractors to conduct the audit and develop recommendations on how the utilities should report and recover CARE administrative expenditures on a more consistent basis in the future. In addition, Energy Division will make recommendations on whether any recorded PY2002 expenditures should be disallowed for cost recovery. Pursuant to the RFP, the contractor is to begin work on June 3, 2003.

Pursuant to Energy Division's RFP, proposals and bids were due on March 24, 2003. Energy Division received two proposals with bids by the deadline on March 24, 2003. Section 5.09 of the State Contracting Manual indicates that the project should be rebid if the state agency receives less than three bids.

Energy Division brought its concerns to me that the current due date for Energy Division's report of February 1, 2004 does not allow enough time to rebid the project and to conduct the comprehensive type of audit envisioned by the Commission for even one utility, not alone all four large energy utilities. Accordingly, I am revising the due date for Energy Division's report to March 29, 2004.⁴

Dated April 8, 2003, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CARL WOOD

Carl Wood
Assigned Commissioner

⁴ "The assigned Commissioner may, for good cause, modify the due dates set forth in this decision." See D.02-09-021, Ordering Paragraph 11.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail to the parties to which an electronic mail address has been provided, this day served a true copy of the original attached ***Assigned Commissioner's Ruling revising the Due Dates for the final reports on LIEE Measure Assessment and Energy Division's Audit of the California Alternate Rate for Energy Program Administrative Expenses Program. Administrative Expenses*** on all parties of record in these proceedings or their attorneys of record.

Dated April 8, 2003 , at San Francisco, California.

/s/ SUSIE TOY

Susie Toy

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

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If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.